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U.S. Army Materiel Command
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June 10, 2005

Destruction of last VX nerve agent safely destroyed at Deseret Chemical Depot

Workers at the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility, Stockton, Utah, recently destroyed the last of more than 22,600 VX nerve agent-filled land mines previously stockpiled by the U.S. Army at Deseret Chemical Depot.

Destruction of the last VX mine also marked the safe elimination of all VX nerve agent stockpiled at DCD.

The TOCDF, which began operations in August 1996, has destroyed more than one million individual munitions containing more than 7,400 tons of chemical nerve agents GB (Sarin) and VX. This represents more than half of the original DCD chemical agent stockpile.

While the United States has never used any chemical nerve or blister agent in combat, such weapons were stockpiled in the 1940s, 50s and 60s as a deterrent to other nations known to have stockpiled similar weapons of mass destruction.

Preparations are under way to begin processing neutralized VX agent (VX hydrolysate) and a small amount of nerve agent. Following this, TOCDF workers will decontaminate the plant and prepare for processing the last of DCD's agent stockpile, nearly 125,000 mustard agent-filled munitions.

TARDEC purifies water from vehicle exhaust

The U.S. Army's Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center, Warren, Mich., recently announced that it has developed a vehicle-based water purification, generation and recovery technology to deliver a dependable source of potable water from emissions.

Developed in concert with Lexington Carbon Company, the Water Recovery Unit from Exhaust technology condenses water from exhausted gas, and then purifies it using a three-stage filtration process. Once enough water is collected in an on-board storage tank, Soldiers can draw water from a tap located on the vehicle.

"Our troops in the field require up to three gallons of water every day to prevent dehydration," said Dr. Richard McClelland, director of TARDEC. "This breakthrough technology not only reduces the logistics footprint of water transportation, but it also makes a seemingly useless waste a valuable commodity."

C-E LCMC helps new federal employees, develops Knowledge Asset Web site

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Lifecycle Management Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J., recently created a Knowledge Asset Web site, designed to organize and deliver basic information about the command to its new employees.

"The Knowledge Asset contains links to many items of importance to help new employees get started, from benefits and payroll information and forms, to descriptions of installation services and contact information," said Deborah Devlin, C-E LCMC's deputy chief of staff for personnel. She also said that the Web site contains information on the organization's mission and interviews with leadership.

Users must be C-E LCMC employees to access the site.

Did you know …

The mission of disposing of 155 millimeter GB-filled artillery projectiles successfully ended June 1 at Anniston Army Depot, Ala., without any safety concerns or casualties.